

Board of Selectmen  
Tuesday, January 13, 2015

A meeting of the Rockport Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 6pm in Conference Room A of Town Hall with four selectpersons, the Town administrator and the Asst. Town Administrator, Selectperson Lucas was not in attendance.

6:00 pm      Meeting Called to Order

Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (MassCoP 154), if the chair declares that having an open session may have a detrimental impact upon the Board of Selectmen's bargaining position; votes may be taken. Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen enter Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, §21(a) for Exception #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and reconvene in open session, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Roll Call Vote: Selectperson Battistelli – aye, Selectperson Murphy – aye, Selectperson Sheedy – aye, Chairperson Wilkinson – aye, all in favor.

Executive  
Session,  
collective  
bargaining  
Motion Approved

Chairperson Wilkinson: "We are entering executive session because, by not doing so, it would be detrimental to the Town's bargaining position."

7:00 pm      Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2014: Selectperson Battistelli moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of December 16, 2014, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0. Selectperson Lucas, pg 2, film liaison, change to "Meg will be active by being a film liaison to our area as a member of the Massachusetts Film Office Liaison Network", Vote: 4-0.

Approve  
12/16/14  
Minutes  
Motion Approved

7:20 pm      National Grid Pole Hearing: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board open a Utility Pole Installation Hearing to hear public comments pertaining to National Grid's request to erect and maintain one JO pole and anchor at the south end of Tarr's Lane West, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

Open National  
Grid Pole Hearing  
Motion Approved

Chairperson Wilkinson read the public notice dated 1/2/15 and placed in the Gloucester Times. Peter Glenn was representing National Grid, he said a guide wire and an anchor grew into a tree. He said everything being installed will be on town property. Ray Thursby, 5 Tarr's Lane West, inquired what would be done; P. Glenn provided details.

Close Hearing: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen close the Public Hearing, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0.

Close National  
Grid Pole Hearing  
Motion Approved

Selectperson Battistelli moved that the Selectmen approve National Grid's petition to erect and maintain one JO pole and anchor including all necessary wires, cables, and fixtures on town property at the south end of Tarr's Lane West

Motion to approve  
National Grid's  
petition to erect and  
maintain a pole  
Motion Approved

as specified in the National Grid petition sketch dated November 14, 2014,  
seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

Interview and  
Appointment of  
Glenn Wheeler for  
Town Accountant  
Motion Approved

Interview with Glenn Wheeler for Town Accountant: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen appoint Glenn Wheeler as Rockport's Town Accountant, employee at will, effective immediately, subject to a successful CORI check, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

The Town Administrator said there were four rounds of advertising for this position and finally they resorted to a search/placement firm; W. Hess participated with Robert Half. W. Hess, W. Wagner, M. Vieira, S. Crown, and C. Arnaud participated in the interview process. G. Wheeler said his experience is outside of this arena. He worked for several large and small companies including Siemen's and Epsilon software in Wakefield. In the past year he has been working with an entrepreneur in Marblehead and also has been consulting. He said he has always worked for corporations and would like to try a different avenue.

Interview of Dr.  
Jimenez for the  
Board of Health  
No vote taken.

Interview with Dr. Jimenez for the Board of Health: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board nominate Dr. Jimenez as a member of the Board of Health for a three year term to expire on June 30, 2018, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, no vote; vote will be at next meeting.

The Rockport Board of Health is a three member regulatory board. Dr. Jimenez said she grew up in Rockport, and attended the school system. She currently has three children in the Rockport school system. She said she wanted to be more involved in the town; her practice is adult/internal medicine. She said she works in the Whistlestop Mall with weight management, has a primary care practice in Revere for MGH; and is interested in public health.

Interview with  
Joanne Wile for  
Historic District and  
Historical  
Commission  
No vote taken.

Interview with Joanne Wile for the Historic District and Historical Commission: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board nominate Joanne Wile as a member of the Historic District and Historical Commissions for a three year term to expire on June 30, 2018, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, no vote taken.

Selectperson Battistelli recused herself. J. Wile said she has run for the Board of Selectmen and the historic commission in the past; this position is an alternate member.

7:55 pm

Selectmen Updates and Liaison Reports:

- Selectperson Murphy spoke on the new plans for the potential train station; he said he has been speaking with different people. He said maybe the Board should hold a meeting or a workshop with the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission. Selectperson Battistelli said there is a meeting this Thursday at 1pm at the state house; the hope is we will get confirmation of where the funding is. We want to express to them about the issue of idling times and ask them if they can do anything for the remainder of this year. The third issue is access to the field, and the power station alongside the ballpark. Access is going to be an issue; it would be great if they can do anything about that section of track to enter the ballpark.

Selectmen Updates  
and Liaison Reports

- Selectperson Murphy said the first police chief screening committee meeting was held; there are 71 applicants.
- Selectperson Murphy said Rockport was named one of the top 66 public schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, out of 361 towns.
- Chairperson Wilkinson praised the First Night activities in town and all of the music and entertainment.

Public Comment Period: T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said he attended the DPW Commissioner's meeting last Wed., where there was a presentation from Commonwealth of Massachusetts/Green Communities. He said the town could get grant funds if we qualify, with five qualifications that the town would need to agree to. He suggested the Planning Board should receive the documents. On the train station, he said he is pleased that a meeting is being discussed. He questions if the MBTA controls the whole parking lot. He said the DPW is concerned about drainage; the drainage must be fixed as one project. He questions what the deadlines are on the consent order.

Public Comment  
Period

#### Town Administrator's Report:

- The Police Chief survey has been distributed via e-mail to residents; it is open until 01/30/15 at 1pm.
- The phone system project is progressing for the school and government, 2/4/15 is scheduled for the government portion; the school system is planned during February vacation. The new system has intercoms, voicemail and can direct calls to cell phone or a laptop. The monthly charges should be reduced. The police station will be phased in later.
- The Payroll conversion is going well, the third payroll processing has occurred. A special thanks to Carrie Arnaud and Melissa Cox for guiding staff through this process. Leave time balances will be printed on paystubs soon.
- Veterans' Agent position, working with Gloucester to further the partnership.
- Police officers provided holiday lunch to the kids at the schools.
- Electricity rate agreement, through DPW and Rob Liebow from the schools, two years were set at a negotiated rate; the rates were skyrocketing.
- There is an increase in Chapter 90 funds to \$289,123, an increase of about \$90,000 this year.
- Next Tuesday is the Annual Budget Workshop with managers.

Town  
Administrator's  
Report

8:15

#### Action List

Action List:

Open April 4, 2015 Special & Annual Town Meeting Warrants: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen open the April 4, 2015 Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

Open 4/4/15  
Special & Annual  
Town Meeting  
Warrants  
Motion Approved

120 Long Beach Lease: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a lease for 120 Long Beach with Thomas and Mary Spittle to reflect a transfer of ownership, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0.

120 Long Beach  
Lease  
Motion Approved

Action List:

Sign Permits for Cape  
Ann Savings Bank  
Motion Approved

Sign Permits for Cape Ann Savings Bank: Selectperson Battistelli moved that the Board approve three sign permits for Cape Ann Savings Bank to include one of the front and one on the back of the Granite Savings Bank building and one on the granite posts in front, all at 247 Main Street, as well as two at the ATM on Bearskin Neck at 2A Old Harbor Road, one at the Rockport Market on Broadway, and two at the Whistlestop Mall ATM, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0.

Harold Rogers, President of C. A. Savings, was in attendance, along with Colleen Anderson from Good Harbor Graphics, and Mike Clay from Clay Sign Services. They are not changing the dimensions of the sign; there is a temporary sign there now. He said the merger occurs over this weekend, on Tuesday the prior Granite Savings Bank opens as C. A. Savings.

Access Easement  
Agreement from  
Sheilacres  
Motion Approved

Access Easement Agreement from Sheilacres: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board accept and sign an Easement Agreement from Sheilacres, Inc. of 77 Jerden's Lane to allow the Town access to its Bedrock Well site behind Cape Pond Reservoir for an amount of \$35,000 as authorized by the 2013 Annual Town Meeting under Article T, seconded by Selectperson Battistelli, Vote: 4-0.

Pingree Park Tennis  
Court Reconstruction  
Agreement  
Motion Approved

Pingree Park Tennis Court Reconstruction Agreement: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign an agreement with Sunshine Paving Corporation of 89 Meadowbrook Road, North Chelmsford, Massachusetts for the Pingree Park Tennis Court Reconstruction for a cost of \$105,998.70, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0.

Hiring Approval for  
Temporary Exercise  
Director  
Motion Approved

Hiring Approval for Temporary Exercise Director: Selectperson Battistelli moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the Recreation Department's request to hire Charlene Patey as a temporary Exercise Director, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0.

Permission for use of  
Millbrook Meadow  
Motion Approved

Permission for use of Millbrook Meadow: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen grant permission to Rockport Music the use of Millbrook Meadow for Rockport Music Opening Night Gala on June 5, 2015 and to erect an 80' x 40' tent, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

Tony Beadle, Sarah Young, and Eileen Mueller were representing Rockport Music. This is the fifth anniversary of the Shalin Liu. The event should end by 11pm; dinner will start around 8pm. A police detail will be there as well. This might give positive attention to the park as well. T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said given the concerns about deposits at the community house, he questioned if the town is getting a deposit on this event or if it will be left up to the DPW. Chairperson Wilkinson said she is confident that Rockport Music will leave the park in pristine condition.

8:35

Discussion Items

Discussion Items

- Financial Plan and Budget Message for FY16: The Board had a draft of the Budget Message to review. Labor and other expenses should have

zero increases with the exception of: increases in mandatory assessments, increases in contractual obligations, reasonable increases necessary to sustain services to the town, reasonable increases that would equip departments to effectively operate with an adequate budget, other exceptions on a case-by-case basis. The Board will vote on the Budget Message at the next meeting.

- April Town Meeting Date: Saturday, April 4 is the scheduled date; it is over Easter weekend and Passover this year. Rescheduling this meeting was discussed; this will be voted on at the next meeting.

Other Business/Announcements: Chairperson Wilkinson said Mike Hughes is petitioning residents about the plowing of private roads. She said Jim Gardner, DPW Commissioner, is inquiring what the Board of Selectmen's direction is on this. The petition is going on for the Town election. This will be a discussion item on the next meeting as a discussion item. T. Arsenian, said it would be helpful if the existing rules were stated.

9:00 Selectperson Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

#### Warrant Signed:

Warrant signed for the Fiscal Year 2015 Payroll and Expenses for the week of January 15, 2015 in the amounts of \$101,218.17 and \$323,720.86 respectively.

#### Items Signed:

Letter to Amanda Warren, design services  
Letter of condolences to Michael Soares  
Sunshine Paving, Pingree Park Tennis Courts  
Sheilaacres, Easement  
120 Long Beach Lease  
Verizon pole placement  
Used Car Dealer, Class II, Cape Ann Auto Works  
Yankee Clipper Inn, Entertainment License  
Yankee Clipper Inn, Innholder's License  
Cape Hedge Inn, Innholder's License  
Seacrest Manor, LLC, Innholder's License  
Sally Webster Inn, Innholder's License  
LoGrasso's Deli, Common Victualler's  
American Legion, Common Victualler's  
Heath's Tea Room, LLC, Common Victualler's  
Blue Lobster Grille, Common Victualler's  
Helmut's Strudel of Bearskin Neck, Common Victualler's  
JRM Hauling, Junk Dealer's License  
Heath's Tea Room, Entertainment License  
King Street Inn, Lodging House  
Beach Knoll, Inn, LLC, Lodging House